

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

ACTION COPY

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Action

Control: 2465
Rec'd: AUGUST 5, 1959
8:19 AM

EUR

FROM: GENEVA

Info

TO: Secretary of State

SS

NO: SECTO 465, AUGUST 5, 10 AM

SP

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INR

PASS TO DEFENSE EXCLUSIVE FOR MCELROY, GATES, CHAIRMAN
JCS, KNIGHT FROM IRWIN

H

RMR

LIMIT DISTRIBUTION

PART 1.

A. DISCUSSED WITH SEC/STATE C-130 FLIGHTS TO BERLIN AT OVER 10,000 FEET AND PRESENTED TO HIM DEFENSE VIEWS CONTAINED YOUR SSO JCS 464-59. SEC/STATE THOUGHT DEFENSE POSITION NOT RPT NOT VERY INFORMATIVE AND REPEATED HIS COMMENTS MADE AT MEETING ON 27 JULY REPORTED IN RHONE 051. LIKEWISE HE THOUGHT AIR FORCE POSITION ON C-130 FLIGHTS TO MOSCOW WEAKENED DEFENSE CASE FOR NEED TO FLY C-130 INTO BERLIN. IF NOT RPT NOT ENOUGH C-130S IN EUROPE TO BE ABLE TO SPARE ONE FOR OCCASIONAL FLIGHTS IN AND OUT MOSCOW, QUESTIONED WHETHER THERE WERE SUFFICIENT AVAILABLE TO OPERATE REGULAR SCHEDULE TO BERLIN. HE IS OPPOSED TO ADDITIONAL PROBES OR OCCASIONAL FLIGHTS THAT MIGHT APPEAR TO THE RUSSIANS AND CERTAIN OF OUR ALLIES PRIMARILY TO BE PROVOCATIVE RATHER THAN AS A PART OF A REGULAR BERLIN SUPPLY OPERATION.

B. HOWEVER, HE IS AGREEABLE TO DEFENSE'S BEGINNING C-130 FLIGHTS ON A ROUTINE BASIS TO BERLIN AT ALTITUDES OVER 10,000 FEET PROVIDED DEFENSE CAN JUSTIFIABLY RELATE THE FLIGHTS TO THE SUPPLY OF OUR FORCES IN BERLIN. DEFENSE HAS INFORMED STATE THAT THE C-130 IS REPLACING CONVENTIONAL CARGO TYPES AND THAT IT ESSENTIAL US ESTABLISH FLIGHT PATTERN OVER 10,000 FEET SO C-130 CAN BE USED ECONOMICALLY TO ISUPPLY BERLIN. IF DEFENSE NOW RPT NOW PREPARED TO ESTABLISH

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PERMANENT

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-2- SECTO 465, AUGUST 5, 10 AM FROM GENEVA

A ROUTINE SCHEDULE WHICH CAN BE EXPLAINED REASONABLY ON ECONOMIC AND LOGISTIC GROUNDS TO OUR ALLIES AND TO THE RUSSIANS, HE IS AGREEABLE TO DEFENSE CONSULTING THE PRESIDENT AND, IF PRESIDENT APPROVES, COMMENCING SCHEDULED FLIGHTS.

C. RECOMMEND THAT IF ABOVE CRITERIA CAN BE MET, DEFENSE (1) MAKE NECESSARY PLANS, (2) INFORM SEC/STATE OF AND CONSULT PRESIDENT ON SUCH PLANS, INCLUDING DATE OF FIRST FLIGHT, AND (3) IF APPROVED, PROCEED TO FLY.

HERTER

SGC

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